



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Philip D. Nguyen, et al.

Attorney Docket: 2000-IP-0437/15/03

Serial No.: 09/882,582 *678*

Group Art Unit: 3672

Filed: June 13, 2001

Examiner: William P. Neuder

For: **METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR GRAVEL**

PACKING OR FRAC PACKING WELLS

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF AUGUST 7, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Amendments
Washington, DC 20231

RECEIVED

JAN 29 2003

Sir:

GROUP 3600

In response to the Office Action of August 7, 2002, a Petition for Extension filed herewith, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

1 1. (Amended) Apparatus for treating an interval of a wellbore, said apparatus
2 comprising:
3 a sand screen unit adapted to be connected to the lower end of a workstring; and
4 [delivery means] a plurality of axially spaced, substantially blank conduits on the external
5 surface of said sand screen unit for delivering a particulate-containing fluid suspension to
6 different axial portions of said interval when said apparatus is in an operable position within said
7 wellbore.

1 2. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, [wherein said delivery means comprises:]
2 [a] the plurality of blank conduits extending longitudinally along said external surface of
3 said screen unit, each of said conduits extending only a portion of the length of said interval and,
4 at least one of said conduits having a lower end that terminates at a different level within said
5 interval than the others.

01/27/2003 JBALINAH 00000066 09882582

01 FC:1201
02 FC:1202

84.00 OP
396.00 OP